GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2935
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2002
COAL BED METHANE
SUBODH MOHITE

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any of the Public Sector Undertaking is producing the coal-bed Methane;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reserves available in the country;

(c) whether the Government propose to develop coal-bed methane as an alternate fuel to generate power;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have received any proposal from the United Kingdom in this regard;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a) to (d):-. No, Sir. The Government has approved the Policy for exploration and exploitation of Coal Bed Methane (CBM) in the country as an alternative source of energy. This Policy provides for offer of blocks for exploration and exploitation of CBM through global competitive bidding. The reserves base of CBM can be known after exploration.As per the CBM policy, the Contractor has freedom to market the gas and therefore, the utilisation of the gas produced, if any, for energy sector including power generation can be made, depending upon the commercial viability of the project.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) & (g):- Do not arise.